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House.

THERE is reason to believe that Gov.

Matthews is weary of his contract to

run the police of a dozen cities.

ADVICE to the amalgamated parties

who propose to beat Carter Harrison

for Mayor of Chicago—first get your candi-

date.

It is fortunate for the country that

President Cleveland cannot "withdraw"

the reciprocity treaties negotiated dur-

ing his predecessor's term.

It cannot be possible that Indianapoli-

s will be the first Northern city to re-

fuse to vote a few thousand dollars to

entertain the Grand Army.

As there are exceptions to all rules,

90 per cent. of the Democrats who held

office under Mr. Cleveland before will

now cling to the hope that they will be

the exceptions to the rule which was a

death warrant to so many thousands.

It should console the thousands of

Democrats who will fail to get office

that if they return home and find some

employment and follow it faithfully,

they will be better off four years hence

than if they had received appointments.

The country is informed every day or

two that the Hon. Hoke Smith is at his

desk hard at work every morning an

hour or so before his clerks arrive. This

would seem to imply a great appetite

for work, but that alone does not consti-

tute a capable public official. The country

can judge better of the Hon. Hoke's fit-

ness for the position of Secretary of the

Interior after he has wrestled for a year

or two with the large and intricate

affairs of the Indian Office, the Land

Office, the Pension Bureau and several

other important bureaus. The Hon.

Hoke is a mere apprentice as yet.

THE Washington correspondent of

the Buffalo Express says that Postmas-

ter-general Bissell, referring to the

efforts of his predecessor to make his in-

duction into office easy and pleasant,

said, "Mr. Wanamaker is a splendid

gentleman." Yet most of the able Demo-

cratic editors, who have never seen

Mr. Wanamaker, agree that he is a

canting hypocrite and cad. It is stated,

by the way, that the new Postmaster-

general wanted to retain Mr. Wana-

maker's private secretary, but the latter

preferred to go out with his late chief.

There seems to be reason to believe that

Mr. Wanamaker is not utterly bad, able

Democratic editors to the contrary not-

withstanding.

THE Sentinel virtually admits that

the appropriations of the last Congress

exceeded those of the so-called "billion

dollar Congress," but says a large part

of them were caused by Republican

legislation of 1890 and 1891. "From this

time," it adds, "we shall have Demo-

cratic government for a while, at least,

and if it does not make a better show-

ing for economy than the late Repub-

lican administration we will be willing

to accept the Republican theory that

"this is a billion-dollar country." We

place this on record for reference and

predict that the next Congress will make

no better showing than the last one.

About two years from now the Sentinel

will be proclaiming that "this is a bil-

lion-dollar country."

HARPER'S WEEKLY is still in an ec-

stasy of admiration over Cleveland's

inaugural, and says: "Even the greed-

iest and most infatuated politician will

have to admit that the spirit of civil-

service reform is vigorously alive when

an incoming President pleads in its be-

half as powerfully as Mr. Cleveland does

in his inaugural address." This may

be, but it is interesting to note that

even the most worshipful and infatu-

ated mugwumps are maintaining a dis-

creet silence over the relation of Isaac

Pusey Gray's appointment to the pur-

ifying of politics and to civil-service

reform. How they will reconcile his lofty

civil service stand with his rule to re-

appoint no ex-officio holder is not yet

known, but the very spirit of civil-ser-

vice reform means the survival of the

fittest, and on this theory who is so fit

to fill an office as one who has proved

himself competent by practice and ex-

perience?

THE Journal has at no time said that

the compensation of the monument

commission aggregates \$10,000 a year,

but it did say that the commission,

meaning the establishment for which it

is responsible, is costing the State that

sum. It is a matter of little consequence

to the taxpayers whether the money

goes to artists, superintendents, en-

to architects, \$8,879 as commissioners' per diem and hotel expenses, \$2,265 for superintendence, \$1,592 for office expenses, \$1,572 for salary of secretary, \$1,404 to experts, and \$1,401 for printing. The total of such expenditures to that date, presumably the close of Mr. Carr's term in December, 1890, was \$29,187.53, all of which, excepting about \$1,000, was chargeable to the policy established by the commission. It is impossible to tell whether the "incidental" of 1891 and 1892 appearing in the reports of Auditor Henderson are additional to the \$29,187.53, but it is fair to assume that they are, and that the expenditure chargeable to the policy of the commission was not less than \$45,000 to the close of the year 1892. The Legislature has appropriated \$20,000 for the commission, so that if it expends half that sum the cost of the commission and its methods to the State will be \$55,000, which will be regarded as a large bill of incidentals to expend upon a monument costing about \$350,000. The intimation of the News that the Auditor's report gives the compensation of the commissioners and other items, and that the Journal could have given them, is incorrect, since that report contains nothing of the kind. The Journal has abused no one as the News declares. It certainly has not sneered at the Grand Army; but it will criticize the methods of expenditure as an original contributor to the fund, always using official figures.

## THE COUNCIL AND THE G. A. R. APPRO-

PRIATION.

There never was a time when it could

be said more distinctly and emphatically

that the honor of the city is in the

hands of the Council than in the matter

of the appropriation in aid of the Na-

tional Encampment of the Grand Army

of the Republic. Look at it. Here is

the largest organization of retired sol-

diers the world has ever seen, an orga-

nization representing the very flower of

American citizenship and with a mem-

bership of nearly half a million. For

years past there has been a contest

among American cities for the honor of

entertaining it. To have gained the

honor and to have handled the encamp-

ment will place a city permanently in

the ranks of urban aristocracy. It is

one of the very best advertisements a

city can have. The Grand Army, through

its constituted authorities, accepted

the invitation of our people and de-

cided to hold the next encamp-

ment here. Many other cities were

competing for the honor. Its bestowal

on this city was at once a recognition of

its advantages of location, of its local

attractions and of its ability to take

care of the encampment according to

pledges made at the time. All the preliminary

steps have been taken, committees ap-

pointed, materials engaged and contracts

entered into in the full belief that the

Council would appropriate a sum which,

added to private subscriptions, would

enable the city to carry out its promises.

It may as well be admitted first as last

that the whole of the necessary amount

cannot be raised by private subscription.

In view of these facts, we ask what kind

of a position would the city be placed in

if the Council refuse to make the approp-

riation? Beyond question, it would

incur a disgrace from which it would

never wholly recover. Such action on

the part of the Council would drive the

encampment to some other city, and

Indianapolis would be advertised

throughout the length and breadth of

the land as having invited the encamp-

ment here and then refused to provide

for it. This would be a unique dis-

grace, for no other city has ever done

such a thing, and no other will ever

dare to do it. Indianapolis would thus

stand solitary and alone in her self-

inflicted ignominy. Such a disgrace

would outweigh all the good adver-

tising the city has ever had. Surely the

Council will not dare to place such a

stigma on the city. The State is already

being severely censured on account of

the action of the Legislature. Let the

Council show that it is actuated by a

higher and broader spirit than that

which actuated the Legislature. A very

large majority of the taxpayers of the

city are in favor of protecting its honor,

and they expect the Council to do its

duty.

## MR. CLEVELAND'S AMUSEMENTS.

There are thousands of Democratic

patriots more than in earnest to serve

the country as humble factors in Mr.

Cleveland's administration. Indeed, it

would not be too much to say that they

are frantic to take office. They crowd

the hotel lobbies in Washington and

they congest the approaches to the

White House and all the departments.

Thus far Mr. Cleveland has not invited

many men to office, but the few that

he has called declare that the office has

come to them "unsought." Offices sought

the always coy Gresham, and not until

he was filled with the idea that no other

American whom Mr. Cleveland could

get could fill the place did he feel "it

a duty he owed to the country to accept

the office of Secretary of State." Office

pursued Carlisle a long time before he

could think of being Secretary of the

Treasury. The secluded Hoke Smith

did not want office, but office in the

hands of Mr. Cleveland made him

a victim. Then, indelicate office pur-

sued the emotional Thurber into Mich-

igan and dragged him to Washington.

The latest victim of pursuing office is

Josiah Quincy. He had notified Mr.

Cleveland that he could not accept

office, and yet Mr. Cleveland, regardless

of the feelings of the Massachusetts

man with a pedigree, compelled him

to take one. Our ex-Governor Gray

has not yet been heard from, but after what

has taken place, one need not be sur-

prised to learn that Mr. Cleveland

forced our modest fellow-citizen into

office. The fact is, Mr. Cleveland ap-

pears to be seeking out the few Demo-

crats and assistant Democrats who have

declared that they do not want office

and has appointed them forthwith. He

may regard it as an excellent joke. The

protestations of those victims whom he

has sent out office as a highwayman

to hunt down may gratify him; but he

should remember that the office-seeking

Democrat may "get on his game" and

leave Washington in droves of thou-

sands, shouting, "We cannot take

office!" expecting that he will let loose

thousands of offices to overtake and

capture them as they are seeking their

homes and private employment. That

would spoil Mr. Cleveland's fun, unless

the best of it consists in seeing the men

whom he appoints pose in the attitude

of the "consecrated."

## THE CITY AND THE STREET RAILROAD

FRANCHISE.

The city has reached a critical point

in its dealing with the street railroad

question. It is at the parting of the

roads. Heretofore it has had to deal

only with one company, and that with

an iron-clad charter. The city's hands

have been tied, and the company always

managed to have part of the Council in

its pay. Under these circumstances the

company has had pretty much its own

way, and its whole policy, so far as the

public is concerned, has been a practical

illustration of "what are you going to

do about it?" At last the city is in a

position to do something about it! Instead

of being bound hand and foot, with one

company holding it by the throat, it is free to act, and three companies are asking favors of it. After having been enslaved for many years it is now master of the situation. The time has come for the other fellows to walk the floor.

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